

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A soft focus lens barrel includes a stationary barrel; a distance operation ring, a soft focus operation ring, and an image surface operation ring, supported by 5 the stationary barrel; a focus guide mechanism which varies a focal position of first through fourth lens groups by moving first and second lens group frames in the optical axis direction without varying the distance therebetween via rotation of the distance operation ring; a spherical 10 aberration guide mechanism which varies spherical aberrations of the first through fourth lens groups by moving third and fourth lens group frames in the optical axis direction via rotation of the soft focus operation ring; and a field curvature guide mechanism which varies 15 curvature of field produced by the first through fourth lens groups by solely moving the first lens group frame in the optical axis direction via rotation of the image surface operation ring.